



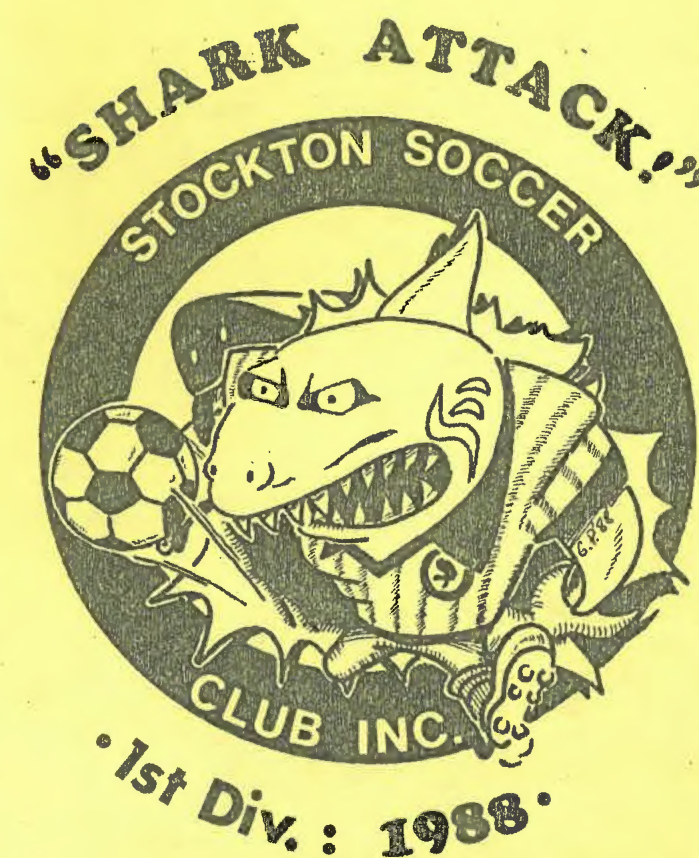
Presentation Night Saturday
Souvenir Book 15/10/1988



FROM THE GOAL-MOUTH

Including:

- *All The Year's Results.
- *Final Tables & Top Goalscorers.
- *From The Committee & Coaches-Their Opinions.
- *Season 1988-The Year In Review.
- *Player Profiles.
- *Comic Relief.



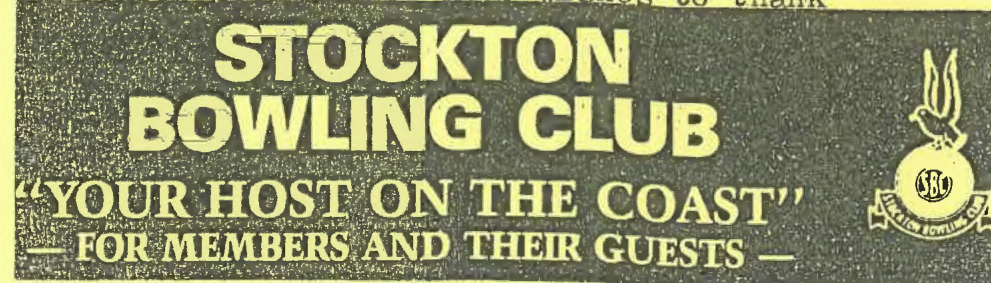
Prepared & Presented
by The Goal-Mouth for
STOCKTON SOCCER CLUB Inc.

CONTENTS...



- 1 FROM THE GOAL-MOUTH**
SEASON 1988-THE YEAR IN REVIEW
- 2 FROM THE COMMITTEE**
PHIL KAMINES-PRESIDENT & IAN STIRRAT-SECRETARY
- 3 WHAT THE COACHES SAY**
GRAHAM BULL(Firsts), LEE BENNIS(Reserves)
& GEOFF FREEMAN(Under 18's).
- 4 TABLES & GOALSCORERS**
FINAL STATISTICS FOR ALL THREE GRADES
- 5 COMPETITION RESULTS**
COMPLETE RESULTS OF ALL THE YEAR'S GAMES
- 6 PLAYER PROFILES**
MARK JOHNSON, DAVID BUTCHART, JON FLEMING
- 7 PLAYER PROFILES**
STEWART AHRENS & STEPHEN GROU'T
- 8 UNDER 18's SEMI-FINAL REVIEW**
OUR STARS OF THE FUTURE IN THEIR FIRST-EVER SEMI-FINAL
- 9 CORROBA OVAL DEVELOPMENT**
A VIEW OF OUR GROUND, TOWARD THE FUTURE
- 10 TEAM PHOTO**
UNDER 18's GRADE-STARS OF THE FUTURE

STOCKTON SOCCER CLUB Inc. wishes to thank

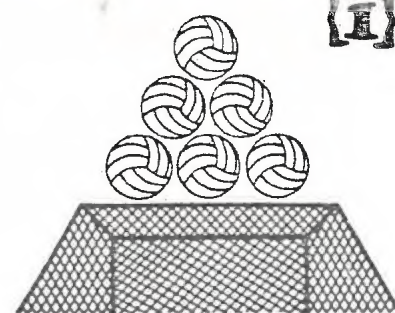


for their valuable support during this season.

Front cover "Shark Attack" design by: Graham Parsons.

FROM THE GOAL MOUTH

SEASON 1988-THE YEAR IN REVIEW...



Welcome

*Another season has come and gone and here we are again at yet another Presentation Night. This year being our inaugural season in the Northern N.S.W. Soccer Federation's State First Division has seen us finishing in a less-than-favourable position in First Grade, unlucky not to make the Semi-Finals in Reserve Grade but doing better than had hoped or expected in Under 18's Grade. This first season in the top division has indeed been a year of mixed fortunes for Stockton Soccer Club.

Under 18's Grade

*It seems ironic that while our First Grade finished at the bottom of their competition ladder, our Under 18's should be the ones to carry the club's colours into the Semi-Finals this year. In the four years that they've played alongside the senior grades, they have come close but never actually made it into the Semi-Finals, finishing just outside the Final Four in our last year of Second Division in 1987. For our boys to make the Semi-Finals this year is a SUPER effort and something with which the club and the township of Stockton can be justly proud. Congratulations must surely go to Geoff Freeman, who has done an excellent job in getting our young stars of the future to their first Semi-Finals and also to the boys themselves who have done so well through the season.

Reserve Grade

*For our Reserve Grade not to make the play-off series this year is no reflection on Lee Bennis, their coach. He has done just as good a job as Geoff Freeman or Graham Bull but luck was, it seems, not with our boys this season. As it was with First Grade, so too is it with Reserves. They have had some really great wins as well as some bad losses but our lads have certainly not disgraced themselves this year. We can surely look forward to better things next year and I certainly hope that Lee Bennis will stay on with Stockton as I do with all three coaches.

First Grade

*As I have said in the first paragraph, our First Grade didn't do as well as we had hoped but they were far from being disgraced. Although our wins were few in number, they have been great wins, especially over teams like Adamstown Rosebuds, Wallsend, Lake Macquarie City, Highfields Azzurri and Central Coast Association. When we did lose, it was by the barest of margins, usually just one goal difference. To Graham Bull, I say don't despair. You have done a great job. Indeed, if not for you, we wouldn't be in First Division. You got us here, it's up to us to stay in First Division. I, for one, would certainly hate to lose you to another club. As for next year, I'm quietly confident that we will do better than we have. We are only new in this division and were, so to speak "testing the waters". Unlike Third & Fourth Divisions, which we seemed to breeze through, our first year in Second Division was rather tough when we were first promoted back in '85 but this season in First Division, by judging from the results, was even tougher. It would be totally unrealistic to expect us to come into First Division and win the Premiership in the first season. It might've been done once or twice but if it happened, those incidences are rare indeed. Our main aim is to improve on 1988 and go on to bigger and better things in the years ahead and with Graham Bull as coach, we'll do that and more!

Shark Attack

*In past years we Soccer fans have always had the weekly Soccer programme booklet issued by the Northern N.S.W. Soccer Federation. However, this year we were to be without this entertaining little booklet that has provided so much enjoyable reading. In order to fill that gap, Stockton Soccer Club has launched their own programme booklet:- the "Shark Attack". This little gem made it's first appearance at our second-round match against Weston and was quite well received. With encouragement like that, there's only one way to go; onward and upward!

Finally

*On behalf of Stockton Soccer Club, thank you for coming tonight and we sincerely hope you enjoy yourselves this evening. For myself, I hope you enjoy this little book which, as you can see, offers plenty to read in Player Profiles, Results & Statistics, Coach & Committee Comments and, scattered throughout the book, Comic Relief.

See You Next Year!!



Stockton Soccer Club
Massive Shark Attack!!!



Phil Kamines-President

Due to circumstances beyond his control, our President, Phil Kamines was unable to submit a contribution to this book. However I am sure that Phil's comments if he had been able to submit such as would've appeared in this space, his sentiments would mirror those that have already been expressed by Ian Stirrat, our coaches, Graham Bull, Lee Bennis and Geoff Freeman.

Phil has held the post of President to Stockton Soccer Club for the past three or so seasons, taking over the reins from Bob Hogan who, in his turn, took over from our present Secretary, Ian Stirrat, who was President in 1984 when we won the Third Division Minor Premiership and were Grand-Finalists in that year, losing to Lambton Jaffas.

The period of Phil Kamines' presidency has seen us progress through 2 Second Division Minor Premierships in 1986 and 1987, the last of which saw us as Grand-Finalists, losing 1-0 to Cessnock City and although we didn't win the Major Premiership, we did advance up to First Division and, though we didn't fare too well this season, we did give the other teams something to think about.

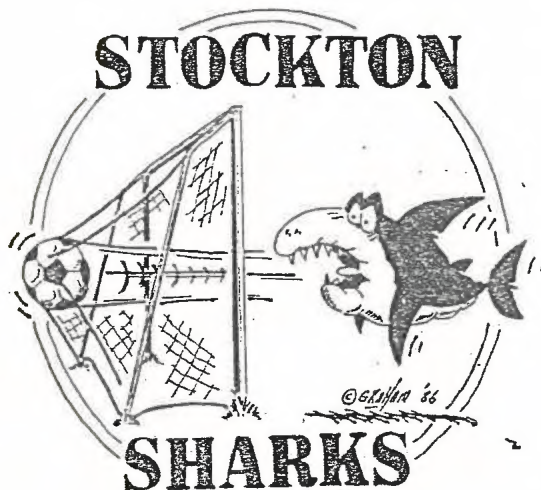
Perhaps if we are still in First Division next year, the opposing teams in all three grades won't take us so lightly. We have proved our worth as a First Division club.

Naturally, if he had been writing this, Phil would have acknowledged all the work put in by our coaches, committee, who worked hard all through the year and, of course, the players in all grades who put in 110% effort to their games and I'm sure Phil would also wish to extend his heartiest congratulations on a task well performed to Geoff Freeman and his charges on their gaining a semi-finals berth.

This may be a bit presumptuous of me but I don't think Phil will mind too much if I say, on his behalf: Congratulations to all concerned on a job well done!

SHARKS LOOKING FINE IN '89!

The Goal-Mouth
on behalf of
Phil Kamines



Thanks to Ian Stirrat, Geoff Freeman, Lee Bennis and Graham Bull for their contributions to these two pages. Phil Kamines has, regrettably, been unable to contribute anything here owing to other commitments but I'm sure he won't let the opportunity slip by to contribute something to next year's book.

G.M.



Ian Stirrat-Secretary

Although First Grade finished at the bottom in 1988, I feel that the club has still had a successful year.

A lot of new players were welcomed to the club in 1988 and I am sure that, in true Stockton tradition, a lot of new friendships were made.

Congratulations to all players on their efforts on the park. I truly believe that all opposing teams did not have it easy when they played Stockton this year. Further congratulations to our Under 18's on such a great effort to be placed fourth, this is something the club is very proud of.

I would like to thank everyone who assisted the club in 1988 and special thanks must go to the bowling club for their financial assistance and allowing us to utilize the club's facilities during the year.

Special thanks to all committee members during the year, the committee functioned well during difficult times and I know that the experience of being a First Division club will only assist the committee in continuing to function well in future years.

I know that we are all anxiously awaiting the 31st October to know whether the club will still be in First Division in 1989. This, of course, will depend on the decision of the Federation directors, however, the application we submitted to the directors to stay in First Division shows that we would still justify a position in the First Division ranks.

Regardless of their decision, I hope that everyone has enjoyed themselves this year and hope to see you again in 1989.

Ian Stirrat.

Geoff Freeman-Under 18's Grade

Being new to the suburb and soccer club, it was a "journey into the unknown" when I took on the position of coach of the U/18's for the 1988 season. When official training commenced in mid-February and at the first session, about half-a-dozen players ambled up and started kicking around, my first thoughts were: "What have I got myself into here?" I was most relieved when, as the trials started in earnest, more players appeared on the scene and the team started to take shape. We started the season off with a few good wins and even led the competition towards the end of first round. Injuries and sickness coincided with a mid-season slump and I recall saying to the boys at training: "Fellas, we have to win four of the last five games to get to the semis." That they did in magnificent fashion to just grab fourth spot which made me so proud of them.

Tony Caponecchia improved in goals as the season progressed to the extent that we only conceded 6 goals in our last 8 games. Our defence really became tight and safe and for this, Derek Collins deserves special praise for a top season in the very difficult sweeping position. Peter Slade at centre-back got better every game. Left-back Jason Hill had a great season and although used in a rotating system, Jim Catalov, Bill Lilley and Shaun Thomas all played well throughout the year. Brendan Slade was called from U/16's and proved to be a player of the future. Our four midfielders, Jon Fleming, Marty Kamines, Shane Beasley and Grant Johnson all had a fantastic season and First Grade positions are surely achievable for this quartet. Our two strikers, Mark Young and Mark Marlborough scored some great goals with Mark Young being the club's leading goalscorer and his lethal left foot must have rival goalkeepers wondering what size cannon they were coming from. Jon Fleming, as captain, was a great help to me both on and off the field and he has already tasted First Grade football, the sky's the limit for Jon. The boys' behaviour throughout the season was impeccable as was their willingness to learn and if retained, the club will be the winner in the end.

To finish off, I would like to say to Graham Bull and Lee Bennis, it's been a difficult job in the club's first year in First Division, well done as both First and Reserve Grade teams were more than competitive throughout the season.

In Phil Kamines and Ian Stirrat, I believe the club has two of the hardest working committeemen I have ever seen. Also, well done Neil (Goalmouth) Forbes and "Hammerhead", whoever he is.

Sharks to shine in '89!

Geoff Freeman

Lee Bennis-Reserve Grade

At the outset I would like to make special thanks to Stephen Grout whose assistance and knowledge helped to demand a fresh approach and a new set of values, which has helped produce for Stockton Soccer a young, eager, disciplined footballer, ready to take his place in the fight to make Stockton "Sharks" the most feared club in the Northern Soccer Federation.

The Reserve Side, captained by the "Wee Master", Brian Whitehead, has developed into a side of great promise with every player adapting to the modern trend of being capable of doing the job of any other colleague in the team. Forwards are expected to tackle like defenders, full-backs must run and centre like wingers, midfielders must inter-change with every position etc.

Continued next
column.....

LEE BENNIS (Continued)

This type of attitude, along with the self-belief and pride demonstrated by these young "Sharks", set their course with the determination to make their first year in the First Division, one of note, which I feel they did in great style.

Lady Luck has not smiled kindly on First Grade this year with injuries and necessary team changes disrupting the Reserve side. But the Reserve players accepted these changes, realising that the Reserve Grade side is the stepping stone to what every Reserve grader must desire: a regular First Grade jumper.

I will not mention individual brilliant performers as the young "Sharks" fought as one unit in the enjoyment of their confrontations. I trust that this club will not forget these young men as they will form the backbone of Stockton's future.

Lastly I would like to thank Stockton Soccer Club and Graham Bull for giving me the opportunity to assist in the coaching of a club which I personally feel will develop into one of the glamour sides of the North, trusting of course that the Federation has the wisdom and forethought to keep Stockton, the only First Grade team on the North Shore in the division it deserves: FIRST DIVISION.

Lee Bennis
(K.D.B.)

Graham Bull-First Grade

Firstly to all the players that trained and fought so hard all year, I thank you for your effort. Personally I still cannot believe that we finished on the bottom of the ladder, having had a great deal of success as coach of Stockton over the last four years, this has been a very hard season for me to live with (as my wife would verify). We did play a lot of good soccer but could not get the results required when we needed.

I must, as coach, accept total responsibility for where the First Grade team finished this season, having the players that were capable of beating teams like Adamstown and Hamilton (Highfields) Azzurri, there is no doubt in my mind that we should've finished a lot higher than we did.

Looking back on this year, it is heartening to see the amount of good, young, quality players coming through the grades which augers well for the future of the "Sharks" when they bounce back in '89.

Congratulations to Geoff and the U/18's, what a great effort! The comradeship that has developed in this team has a lot to do with the success that they have achieved this year. "Well done, fellas!"

Reserve Grade, being an unsettled side virtually all year with injuries and players jumping from First & Reserve Grades, this made it very hard to blend a winning team together. As with the First Grade though, this side, I thought, should have made the semis. My thanks to Lee Bennis for being an able assistant and Steve Grout as assistant to the assistant.

I would also like to thank the committee for their loyal support through what has been our most disappointing year ever. Two blokes that I have to give special mention to are Phil (Silver) Kamines and Ian (Noon) Stirrat as I feel that without the effort that these two have put in, the club would not have existed this year. Well done, Noon & Phil!!

Last but not least, I would like to thank my lovely wife, Margaret for her devotion and in generally "putting up with me". I know I get very trying, dear, but I must admit I was like that when you married me so you have got no grounds for a divorce(yet)!!!!

G. Bull

[4] TABLES & GOALSCORERS...

TABLES AFTER 18 GAMES

FIRST GRADE

	W	D	L	F/A	Pts.
Adamstown Rosebuds	12	4	2	26/10	40
West Wallsend	12	3	3	33/11	39
Highfields Azzurri	9	3	6	27/20	30
Weston Bears	9	1	8	29/22	28
Belmont/Swansea	6	5	7	19/27	23
Lake Macquarie City	6	4	8	22/25	22
Cardiff	6	4	8	22/30	22
Central Coast Assc.	5	3	10	19/30	18
Wallsend	5	3	10	14/27	18
STOCKTON	5	1	13	22/34	15

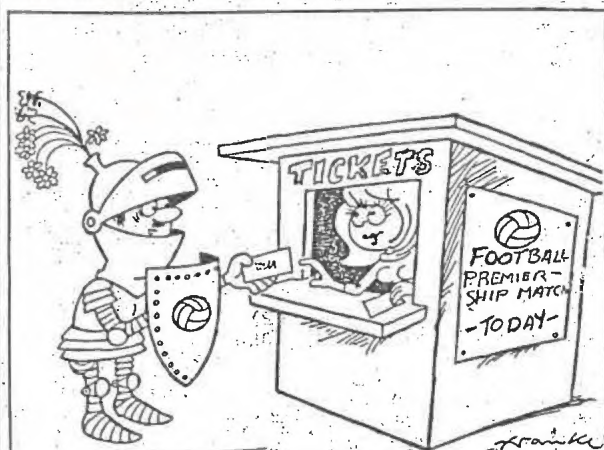
RESERVE GRADE

	W	D	L	F/A	Pts.
Lake Macquarie City	10	5	3	30/12	35
West Wallsend	10	4	4	30/16	34
Belmont/Swansea	7	9	2	24/14	30
Weston Bears	9	2	7	22/22	29
Cardiff	8	3	7	19/18	27
STOCKTON	6	6	6	22/21	24
Highfields Azzurri	5	7	6	29/23	22
Adamstown Rosebuds	4	8	6	22/25	20
Wallsend	3	6	9	12/24	15
Central Coast Assc.	1	4	13	09/44	7

UNDER 18's GRADE

	W	D	L	F/A	Pts.
Adamstown Rosebuds	14	4	0	42/08	46
West Wallsend	9	5	4	41/21	32
Belmont/Swansea	9	5	4	24/07	32
STOCKTON	8	3	7	31/23	27
Weston Bears	9	0	9	21/22	27
Lake Macquarie City	6	8	4	22/15	26
Highfields Azzurri	6	3	8	18/24	21*
Central Coast Assc.	5	4	8	14/22	19*
Cardiff	4	5	9	22/30	17
Wallsend	1	12	7	07/70	1

Comic Relief...



"Just in case the opposition's fans start throwing rubbish, bottles and tin cans at me again!"

Drawing by: Frankie

***Editor's Note:-** Central Coast Association and Highfields Azzurri U/18's teams have elected not to play their remaining deferred match as it had no bearing on the final outcome of the grade table.

TOP GOALSCORERS

Under 18's:

Mark YOUNG:11
Mark MARLBOROUGH:07
Jon FLEMING:06
Shane BEASLEY:04
Martin KAMINES:01
Brendan SLADE:01
Tony CAPONECCHIA:01

Reserves:

Martin SHINER:04
Steven GROUT:03
Gary COTTON:03
Brian WHITEHEAD:03
Steven WOOD:02
Shane BEASLEY:01
Anthony REILLY:01
Mark JOHNSON:01
Paul CHRISTIE:01
Michael MCGOVERN:01

Firsts:

Mark JOHNSON:08
Douglas ELPHICK:07
Bruce MURPHY:01
Terence O'REILLY:01
Anthony MCGOVERN:01
Steven WOOD:01
Thomas SPENCE:01
Michael MCGOVERN:01
Barry COLLINS:01

Doubling Up!

Shane BEASLEY:4(U/18's) + 1(Reserves) = 5
Steven WOOD:2(Reserves) + 1(Firsts) = 3
Mark JOHNSON:8(Firsts) + 1(Reserves) = 9
Michael MCGOVERN:1(Firsts) + 1(Reserves) = 2



**NORTHERN N.S.W.
SOCCER FEDERATION
LIMITED**



COMPETITION RESULTS...

25th April:-

Under 18's:2 Shane BEASLEY

Mark YOUNG

Reserves:1 Steven GROUT

Firsts:0

1st May:-

Under 18's:1 Jon FLEMING

Reserves:3 Karl MARJORIBANKS

Gary COTTON

-own goal conceded-

Firsts:1 Mark JOHNSON

3th May:-

Under 18's:1 Mark YOUNG

Reserves:1 Shane BEASLEY

Firsts:2 Mark JOHNSON(2)

15th May:-

Under 18's:7 Jon FLEMING(3)

Shane BEASLEY(2)

Mark MARLBOROUGH

Martin KAMINES

Reserves:2 Steven GROUT

Steven WOOD

Firsts:2 Douglas ELPHICK

Mark JOHNSON

22nd May:-

Under 18's:3 Mark YOUNG(2)

Mark MARLBOROUGH

Reserves:0

Firsts:2 Douglas ELPHICK

Mark JOHNSON

28th May:-

Under 18's:3 Mark MARLBOROUGH(2)

Mark YOUNG

Reserves:0

Firsts:0

4th June:-

Under 18's:0

Reserves:0

Firsts:4 Bruce MURPHY

Mark JOHNSON

Terence O'REILLY

Douglas ELPHICK

10th June:-

Under 18's:1 Mark YOUNG

Reserves:0

Firsts:0

18th June:-

Under 18's:1 Mark MARLBOROUGH

Brian WHITEHEAD

Reserves:4 Steven GROUT

Steven WOOD

Firsts:0 Anthony REILLY

26th June:-

Under 18's:0

Reserves:0

Firsts:1 Tony MCGOVERN

3rd July:-

Under 18's:1 Jon FLEMING

Reserves:4 Martin SHINER(2)

Gary COTTON(2)

Firsts:2 Douglas ELPHICK

9th July:-

Under 18's:1 Brendan SLADE

Reserves:1 Martin SHINER

Firsts:1 Douglas ELPHICK

17th July:-

Under 18's:6 Tony CAPONECCHIA*

Mark MARLBOROUGH

Mark YOUNG(2)

Shane BEASLEY

Jon FLEMING

Reserves:0

Firsts:0

23rd July:-

Under 18's:1 Mark YOUNG

Reserves:4 Mark JOHNSON

Brian WHITEHEAD

Paul CHRISTIE

Michael MCGOVERN

Firsts:1 Steven WOOD

31st July:-

Under 18's:0

Reserves:0

Firsts:0

7th August:-

Under 18's:0

Reserves:1 Brian WHITEHEAD

Firsts:0

14th August:-

Under 18's:2 Mark MARLBOROUGH

Mark YOUNG

Reserves:1 Karl MARJORIBANKS

Firsts:2 Thomas SPENCE

Michael MCGOVERN

20th August:-

Under 18's:1 Mark YOUNG

Reserves:1 Martin SHINER

Firsts:4 Mark JOHNSON(2)

Douglas ELPHICK

Barry COLLINS

Vs. WESTON BEARS

1 Weston Park, Weston.

0

2

Vs. HIGHFIELDS AZZURRI

0 Whitebridge Oval, Whitebridge

7 First & Reserve Grades deferred to

10th August, Under 18's Grade

deferred to 16th August.

3

Vs. BELMONT/SWANSEA UNITED "BELSWANS"

3 Blacksmiths Oval, Blacksmiths.

1

Vs. WALLSEND "RED DEVILS"

1 International Sports Centre,

New Lambton.

0

1

Vs. CARDIFF "TIGERS"

1 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

First game on home ground in

1 First Division.

3

Vs. WEST WALLSEND "BLUEBELLS"

3 Johnstom Park, West Wallsend.

1

1

Vs. ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUDS

4 Adamstown Oval, Adamstown.

0

3

Vs. LAKE MACQUARIE CITY

1 Macquarie Field, Speers Point.

1 Played under lights, Friday Evening.

2

Vs. CENTRAL COAST ASSOCIATION

2 Plum Park, Lisarow.

Deferred to 21st August

2

Vs. WESTON BEARS

1 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

0

2

Vs. HIGHFIELDS AZZURRI

2 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

3

Vs. BELMONT/SWANSEA UNITED "BELSWANS"

0 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

0

2

Vs. WALLSEND "RED DEVILS"

0 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

0

2

Vs. CARDIFF "TIGERS"

1 Lymington Park, Cardiff.

0

Vs. WEST WALLSEND "BLUEBELLS"

1 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

1

Vs. ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUDS

1 Corroba Oval, Stockton

1

Vs. LAKE MACQUARIE CITY

1 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

1

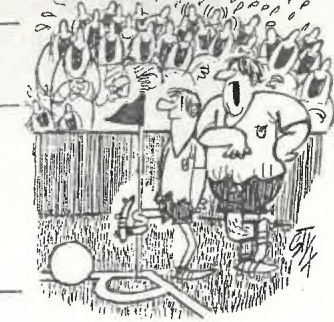
Vs. CENTRAL COAST ASSOCIATION

0 Corroba Oval, Stockton.

1

2

Comic Relief...



"You've done it again, haven't you?"



"That's not fair - open your legs."



"He's as thick as a plank. I told him to practise sitting on the ball."

[6] PLAYER PROFILES...

Mark Johnson

Full Name: Mark Johnson. Age: 29
 Birthdate: 20th February, 1959.
 Playing Position:
 Present: Forward.
 Favourite: Anywhere.
 Favourite Food: Seafood.
 Favourite Restaurant: Scales
 Favourite T.V. Show: "Hill Street Blues".
 Favourite Song: Any.
 Favourite Movie: Any blue movie.
 (Surely, you mean tinted movies, Mark? - Ed.)
 Favourite Girl: Any.
 Favourite Player:
 Present: All.
 Past: None.

Likes: Anything.
 Dislikes: Losing.

Suggestions for improving the game:
 Score more goals than any other team.
 (That sure makes sense, Mark! - Editor)

*And I thought Stewart Ahrens was easy to please, Hmmm...
 (Editor)

David Butchart

Full Name: David Butchart. Age: 31
 Birthdate: 9th July, 1957.
 Playing Position:
 Present: Midfield.
 Favourite: Midfield.

Favourite Food: Chinese.
 Favourite Restaurant: Any Chinky restaurant.
 Favourite T.V. Show: "World Soccer" (S.B.S. T.V.).
 Favourite Song: "Flower Of Scotland".
 Favourite Movie: "Midnight Express".
 Favourite Girl: My daughter (Lymsey).
 Favourite Player:
 Present: Maradona & Marco Van Basten.
 Past: Pele.

Likes: Good sunshine, snooker, anything to do with soccer
 and Glasgow Rangers.
 Dislikes: Smoking, ignorant people and losing games of
 soccer.

Suggestions for improving the game:
 Let young players express their individual skills and for
 the referees to protect them against the hatchet men.
 Further Comments: I would like to see more coaching kids at
 a later age of about 14, 15, 16 levels rather than
 starting at the age of 6, 7, etc.

Jon Fleming

Full Name: Jonathon Allan Fleming. Age: 19
 Birthdate: 5th September, 1969.
 Playing Position:
 Present: Centre midfield.
 Favourite: Centre Midfield.
 Favourite Food: Everything & Anything.
 Favourite Restaurant: Apollo/Badningtons.
 Favourite T.V. Show: "Dallas".
 Favourite Song: "What A Wonderful World" (Louis Armstrong).
 Favourite Movie: "Fatal Attraction".
 Favourite Girl: Danielle.
 Favourite Player:
 Present: Grant Johnson (Stockton U/18's).
 Past: Trevor Brooking (West Ham).

Likes: The joy of winning with my team-mates.
 Dislikes: Playing a bad game of soccer and losing.

Suggestions for improving the game:
 A bit of help from the (young) oldies to us younger blokes
 would go a long way.
 Further Comments: "Winning is not everything, it is the
 only thing!"



PLAYER PROFILES...

My thanks to "HARRY HEAD" for contributing the Player
 Profiles on these pages. Thanks also to Mark Johnson,
 David Butchart, Stephen Grout, Stewart Ahrens & Jon Fleming.

Stewart Ahrens

Full Name: Stewart Andrew Ahrens. Age: 27
 Birthdate: 8th January, 1961.
 Playing Position:
 Present: Fullback.
 Favourite: Up front.
 Favourite Food: Everything.
 Favourite Restaurant: Madisons.
 Favourite T.V. Show: "The Addams Family".
 Favourite Song: "Stairway To Heaven".
 Favourite Movie: "Caddyshack".
 Favourite Girl: My girlfriend.
 Favourite Player:
 Present: None.
 Past: None.

Likes: Food, sleep, summer.
 Dislikes: Not many.

Suggestions for improving the game:
 Wider goals!

*You're an easy-to-please sort of bloke, Stewart.
 It seems nothing worries you too much! (Editor)

"I think that's what you
 would call jumping at the
 'keeper'."

Comic Relief...

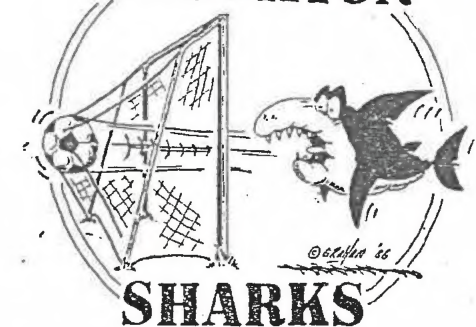


"I'll say one thing - only a genius
 could hit the corner flag from the
 penalty spot."



"When that simple cross came in -
 you should have grabbed it with
 both hands like this."

STOCKTON



SHARKS

Stephen Grout

Full Name: Stephen John Grout. Age: 31
 Birthdate: 17th September, 1957.
 Playing Position:
 Present: Right side Midfield.
 Favourite: Right side Midfield.
 Favourite Food: Spaghetti Bolognese.
 Favourite Restaurant: Leo's Take-Away in Raymond Terrace.
 Favourite T.V. Show: "Hill Street Blues" & "Tour Of Duty".
 Favourite Song: "Hotel California".
 Favourite Movie: "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest".
 Favourite Girl: Hayley (My daughter).
 Favourite Player:
 Present: Steve McMahon (Liverpool).
 Past: Tommy Robson (Petersborough United).

Likes: Rock music, sleep, the odd beer, watching Soccer.
 Dislikes: Paul Keating, disco music, on-field dissent,
 club fines.

Suggestions for improving the game:
 (1) Alter the offside rule.
 (2) Higher level players should referee the low grade
 games.



"He was so busy celebrat-
 ing the winner that he tripped
 and went flying down
 30 yards of terracing."



"It's all very well signing these
 players from abroad, coach -
 but I'm the only one in the team
 that speaks English."

[8] UNDER 18's SEMI-FINAL REVIEW..

3rd September Vs. BELMONT/SWANSEA UNITED "BELSWANS"
 Under 18's:0 3 Adamstown Oval, Adamstown
 Northern N.S.W. Soccer Federation - State First Division
 Minor Semi-Final

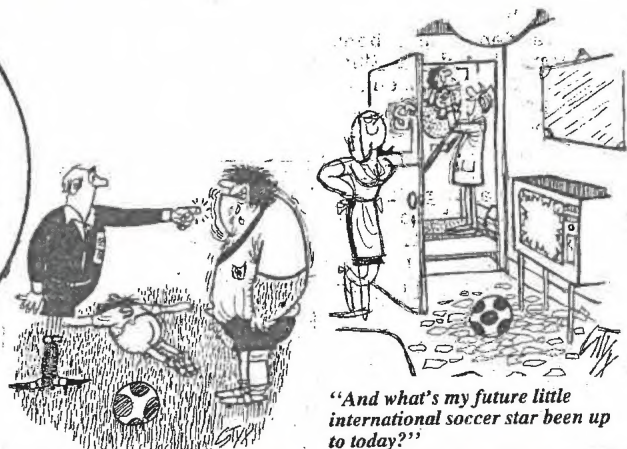
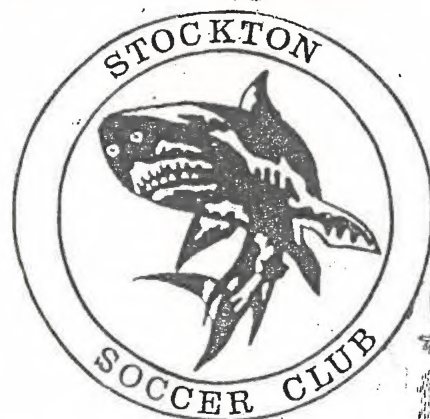
Although our First and Reserve Grade teams have regrettably failed to make their respective semi-finals, our Under 18's were the ones to proudly carry the club's colours this year in their first (Minor) Semi-Final appearance since they commenced playing alongside the senior grades in our initial season in the Second Division, back in 1985.

Stockton went in against Belmont/Swansea, a team, against which, our boys have an away-win and home-loss record, having beaten them 1-0 at Blacksmiths Oval, back on the 1st May, then lost 1-3 at home on the 9th July. Although we were not exactly starting favourites when we met at Adamstown Oval on 3rd September, we did hope to give the Belswans a run for their money but things didn't quite go our way as it turned out and our boys bowed out of the competition after losing 3-0 to the 'Swans. The run of the game turned against us in the 11th minute of first half after a momentary lapse by Tony Caponecchia allowed the 'Swans to score their first goal. Belswans scored again in the 31st minute of first half and the 10th minute of second half when, after the 'Swans made a couple of substitutions, Stockton started to get back on top of them again, but by that time it was already too late, the damage had been done. Although Stockton had a few chances to score, the shots didn't make their mark.

In spite of that loss, our boys have no reason to feel any shame as to simply make the semis as they did, is an achievement in itself and a source of pride, not only to our club but to the township of Stockton as well. To Geoff Freeman, their coach, this should be encouragement enough to stay on as coach next year whether we're in First or Second Division.

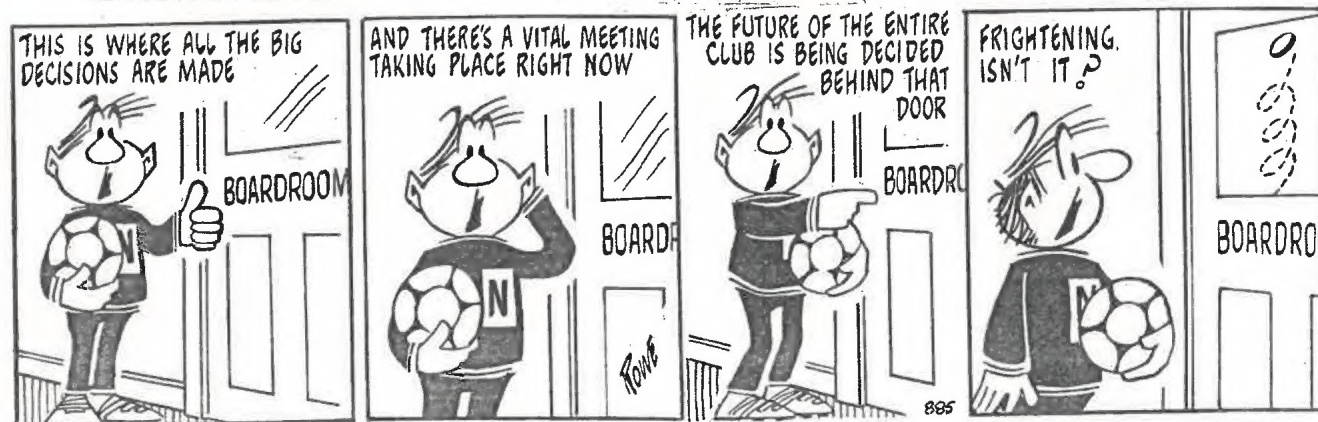
So ends Stockton Soccer Club's 1988 campaign and all that remains now is to wait and see whether we remain in the First or are relegated to Second Division for the 1989 season. This, of course, will not be known until the end of October.

To Geoff Freeman: I dips me lid to ya, chum! You have done what Gary Norris and Bill Rice have not been able to do, although they did just as good a job as you in the position as Under 18's coach, things didn't quite "click" for them but your efforts this year plus the efforts of all the boys in the team finally bore fruit. Congratulations Geoff & team on a job well done!



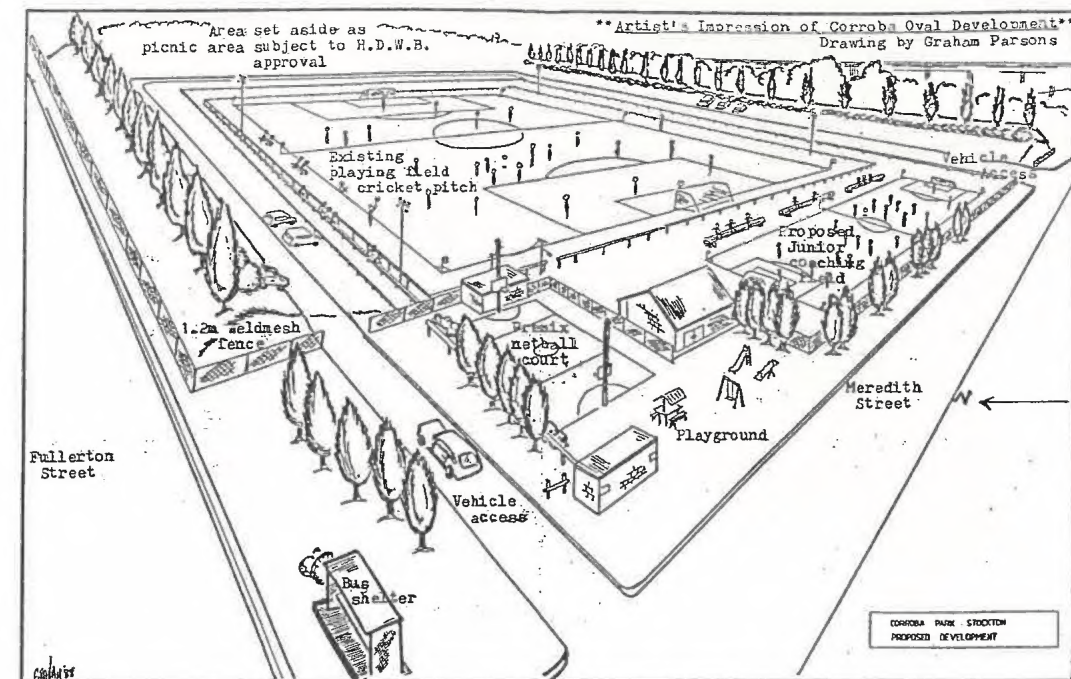
"And what's my future little international soccer star been up to today?"

Comic Relief...



CORROBA OVAL DEVELOPMENT

[9]



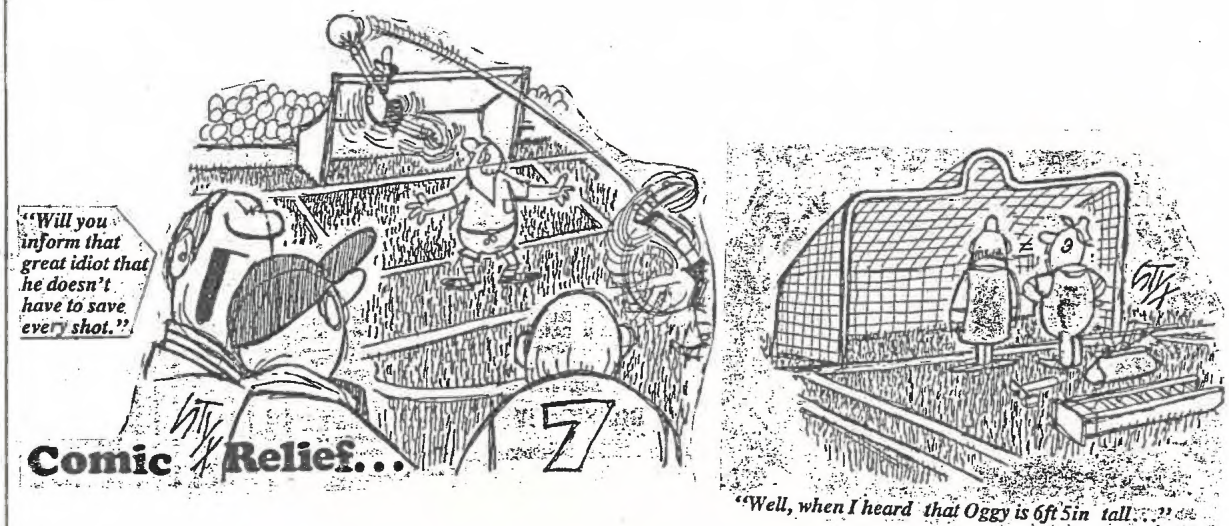
TOWARD THE FUTURE

The above illustration is an artist's impression of how Corroba Oval will look when all development is completed. As you have already noticed, much of the work is already completed, i.e. the fence around the playing field is now rectangular where it was originally oval (more or less), the mound, extending from north to south along the Fullerton-Street side of the playing field is now in place, providing parking space for cars and an elevated view of the game for those who wish to stay in their cars. Two dugouts have now been provided for team reserves, coaches and other officials from both home and visiting clubs.

A cyclone fence has been erected along part of Meredith Street from the bushes where Meredith Street turns into Eames Avenue, to just level with the canteen end of the amenities block, at which point the fence turns 90 degrees towards said amenities block. Another short fence extends from the home team's dressing room end of the block, beside the netball court to the equipment shed.

A coaching pitch for juniors is projected to go into the space along Meredith Street, another mound for car parking is also planned for the Eastern (beach) side of the playing field, more fencing for the Fullerton-Street side of the field and, subject to Water Board approval, a picnic area at the Northern end of the playing field. All of these developments are, of course, subject to the availability of finance but we'll keep trying and, hopefully, our applications for grants will receive favourable considerations and we'll get the money we need to finish this work.

As things stand now, the ground is a vast improvement on what it was only last year (1987), so you can imagine what it will be like when it's all finished. That will surely be something to look forward to.



Comic Relief...

"Well, when I heard that Oggy is 6ft 5in tall..."

[10] TEAM PHOTO...

UNDER 18's GRADE



Back Row:-
Jim Catalov, Shane Beasley, Jon Fleming, Tony Caponecchia(Goalkeeper),
Mark Young, Jason Hill and Brendan Slade.

Front Row:-
Bill Lilley, Shaun Thomas, Peter Slade, Derek Collins,
Grant Johnson and Marty Kamines.



STARS OF THE FUTURE

Under the coaching of Geoff Freeman, our Under 18's Grade team have really excelled themselves this year. With a record of 8 wins for 3 draws and 7 losses, our young "Stars Of The Future" have had the better of this season as far as the club goes and their best season yet as far as the grade goes.

One highlight of the year that really stands out concerns our goalkeeper, Tony Caponecchia. In the return match against Wallsend at Corroba Oval, who could ever forget that clearance shot, taken by Tony, that sailed right over everyone's heads 'til it landed in the back of the net, leaving the opposing goalie totally stunned with disbelief. That goal is still being talked about to this day. Indeed such an occurrence as this is very rare and is a privilege to see it.

For some of our boys, this will have been their final season in this grade. Players like Jimmy Catalov, Tony Caponecchia, Marty Kamines and Mark Young will either move up to Reserve or First Grade or leave the club as one or two have hinted they might, which would be sad for them and the club as they have made such a contribution through their efforts that their absences will be noticed and deeply felt.

For Mark Young and Jon Fleming, a First Grade career surely awaits them. Jon has already tasted First Grade football at least twice during this year as pointed out by Geoff Freeman(see page 3) and has really made his presence felt in that grade. Mark Young as the leading goalscorer in his grade and, indeed, the club with 11 goals to his name, will surely go a long way in this game and we hope he does it with Stockton.

Brendan Slade has had much said of him by the coaches and his fellow players. all have been impressed by his eagerness to learn and his dedication to the game will see him a force to be reckoned with in future years.

Like his brother, Brendan, Peter Slade also shows promise and will go a long way if he sticks at it. Jimmy Catalov, a stayer although not very fast on his feet, he's there when he's needed.

Marty Kamines has shown his versatility both in goals and on the field. In goals he has made many a fine save during this and previous seasons, while on the field he has made his presence felt as well, booting in the odd goal or two in the process.

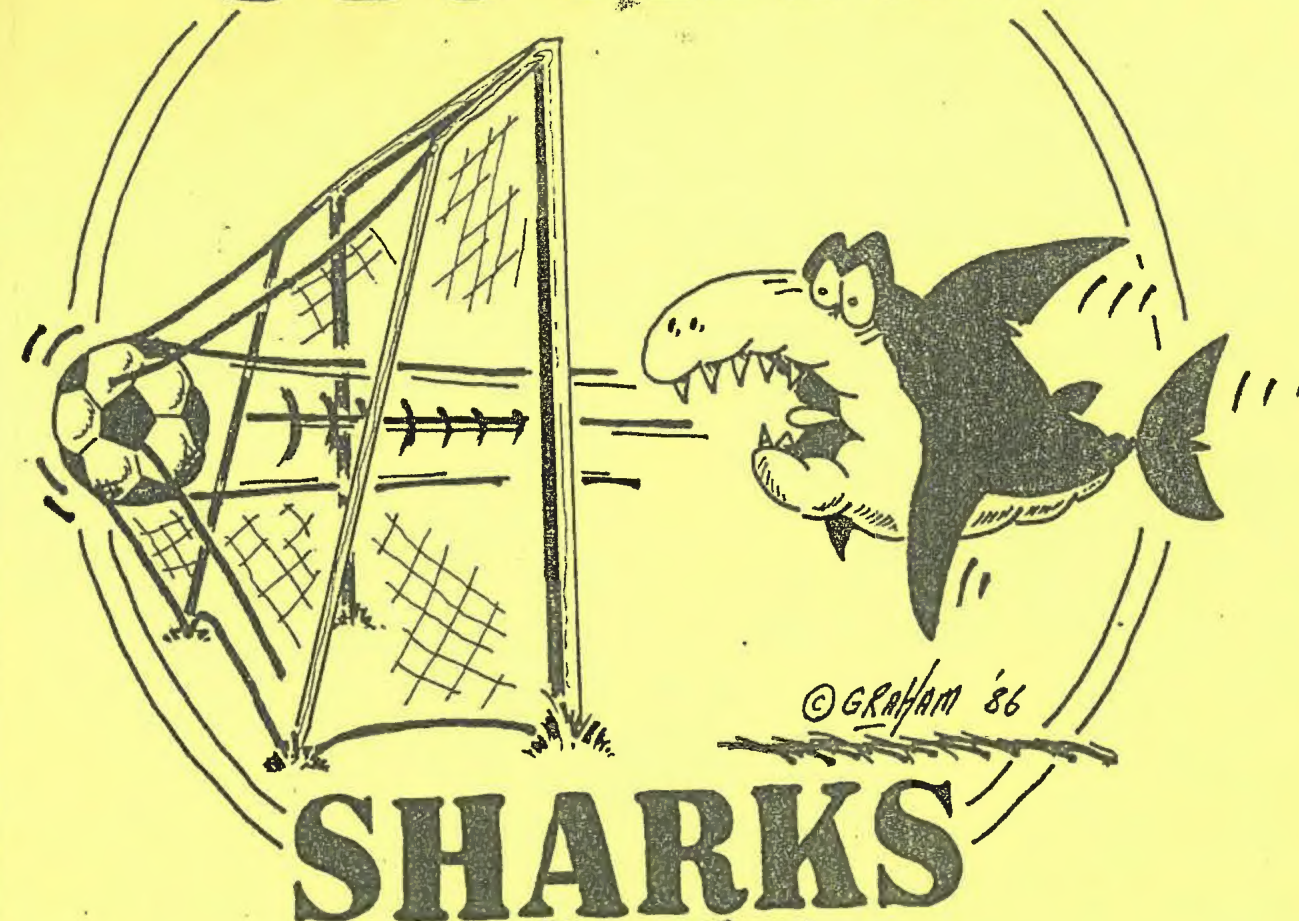
Shane Beasley, Jason Hill, Bill Lilley, Shaun Thomas, Derek Collins and Grant Johnson all have the potential to go far in this sport if they stick at it and, who knows, one day maybe, they could find themselves a spot in a National League team.

To Geoff Freeman, again I offer you my heartiest congratulations on a job well done, being the first coach to get our boys into a semi-final spot(see review, page 8). Although Gary Morris and Bill Rice have done excellent work in past seasons, luck has not been with them but this year with our Sharks swimming in unfamiliar waters, so to speak, our Under 18's got in there and made the best of it and came up trumps.

To Mr. Graham Beasley, thank you so much for the photo(above), it does our boys justice and in this book, will be a memento to look back on in the years to come.

The Goal-Mouth.

STOCKTON



**WISHING OUR SUPPORTERS ALL THE
BEST FOR
CHRISTMAS &
A HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

Many thanks to all those who have assisted me in the production of this book, to Ian Stirrat and Phil Kamines(who would've but for circumstances beyond his control), to our coaches, Graham Bull, Lee Bennis and Geoff Freeman, to Mark Johnson, David Butchart, Jon Fleming, Stewart Ahrens and Stephen Grout(sorry 'bout misspelling your name in parts of this book, Steve) who, through the Hammerhead, took part in our Player Profiles. Thanks also to Hammerhead for providing those profiles. Finally, I would like to thank Graham Parsons for his work in cartoons & artwork as well as having the copies made of this book. To Graham Beasley, a special thanks for the Under 18's team photo. I was hoping to have photographs of all grades but alas, this wasn't to be. Ah well, that's the way things go sometimes.